

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 11, 2005      LB 264, 761

CLERK:      LB 264,      Senator, I have Enrollment and Review amendments, first of all. (AM7035, Legislative Journal page 732.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Flood.

SENATOR FLOOD: Mr. President, I move the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 264.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Heard the motion to adopt the E & R amendments to LB 264. All in favor say aye. Those opposed, nay. They are adopted.

CLERK:      Senator Thompson would move to amend with AM0756. (Legislative Journal pages 821-822.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Thompson, you're recognized to open on AM0756 to LB 264.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. President. LB 761 was introduced and amended by the Government Committee and it deals with the makeup of the Foster Care Review Board. This is the compromise that was advanced by the committee and it would strengthen the Foster Care Review Board by adding professionals to the board and extending its membership by two members. The Foster Care Review Board was established in 1982 and initially consisted of seven members. Of those seven members, there were two from each congressional district and one at-large member. In 1987, Senator Landis passed legislation that increased the membership to nine members, and specified three of the nine members must be from local foster care review boards. That stays the same in this, in this bill. In 1990, Senator Hartnett passed legislation that specified that one of the remaining six members must be an attorney with legal expertise in child welfare and, again, that is contained in this...remains in the bill, an attorney with guardian ad litem experience. We expand the number by two and include a pediatrician, a child psychologist, a social worker, a representative of a child advocacy group, a child advocacy center director, a director of a court-appointed special advocate program, and a member of the public with a background in business or finance. And the board